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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Anderson et al.

Serial No.: 09/753,678

Filed: 1/4/2001

Title: Reference Database

Attorney Docket No.: 41333

Group Art Unit: 2625

Examiner: Abolfazl TABATABAI

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last.

Applicants submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of patents, publications or other information of which applicants are aware, which applicants believes may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware. Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

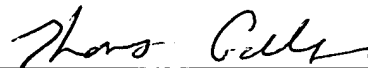
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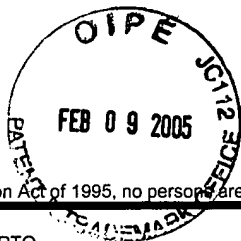
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/753,678
				Filing Date	1/4/2001
				First Named Inventor	Anderson et al.
				Art Unit	2625
				Examiner Name	TABATABAI, Abolfazl
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	41333

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-20020046198	04/18/2002	HITT	
		US-20040053333	03/18/2004	HITT et al.	
		US-20040058372	03/25/2004	HITT et al.	
		US-20040058388	03/25/2004	HITT et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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